

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. - 15. (Cancelled)

16. - 20. (Withdrawn)

21. (New) In a high voltage power transmission installation comprising an electrified high voltage powerline, a method for limiting current flow between the electrified high voltage powerline and an adjacent conductor of electricity in the event of creation of a short circuit between the electrified high voltage powerline and the conductor of electricity, the method comprising:

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- (a) selecting a portion of the high voltage power transmission installation having a configuration which renders the portion of the high voltage power transmission installation susceptible to creation of the short circuit at a location of the portion of the high voltage power transmission installation;
 - (b) determining a desired electric insulating capability such that creation of the short circuit will result in an amount of current flow between the electrified high voltage powerline and the conductor of electricity which is below a predetermined limit in the amount of current flow;
 - (c) selecting a dielectric material having a suitable insulating strength for providing the desired electric insulating capability; and
 - (d) while the electrified high voltage powerline is electrified, applying a thickness of the selected dielectric material to at least one of the electrified high voltage powerline and the conductor of electricity which is sufficient to provide the desired electric insulating capability.

22. (New) The method as claimed in claim 21 wherein the applying step is comprised of applying the selected dielectric material to the electrified high voltage powerline.

23. (New) The method as claimed in claim 21 wherein the conductor of electricity is comprised of a support structure for supporting the electrified high voltage powerline and wherein the applying step is comprised of applying the selected dielectric material to the support structure.

24. (New) The method as claimed in claim 23 wherein the applying step is comprised of applying the selected dielectric material both to the electrified high voltage powerline and to the support structure.

25. (New) The method as claimed in claim 21 wherein the conductor of electricity is comprised of an electrical wire and wherein the applying step is comprised of applying the selected dielectric material to the electrical wire.

26. (New) The method as claimed in claim 25 wherein the applying step is comprised of applying the selected dielectric material both to the electrified high voltage powerline and to the electrical wire.

27. (New) The method as claimed in claim 21 wherein the electric insulating capability determining step is comprised of evaluating the voltage potential between the electrified high voltage powerline and the conductor of electricity.

28. (New) The method as claimed in claim 21 wherein the electric insulating capability determining step is comprised of evaluating the types of bird and animal contact with the electrified high voltage powerline and the conductor of electricity which may result in creation of the short circuit.

29. (New) The method as claimed in claim 21 wherein the electric insulating capability determining step is comprised of determining the predetermined limit in the amount of current flow having regard to an amount of current flow which is life threatening to the types of birds and animals which may contact the electrified high voltage powerline and the conductor of electricity.

30. (New) The method as claimed in claim 21 wherein the applying step is comprised of applying the selected dielectric material in a liquid form.

31. (New) The method as claimed in claim 30, further comprising the step of selecting an appropriate application technique for performing the applying step.

32. (New) The method as claimed in claim 30 wherein the selected dielectric material is comprised of a plurality of dielectric material components, and wherein the method is further comprised of mixing the plurality of dielectric material components together before the applying step.

33. (New) The method as claimed in claim 30 wherein the selected dielectric material is formulated from a plurality of solid dielectric material components.

34. (New) The method as claimed in claim 30 wherein the applying step is comprised of applying the selected dielectric material using a dielectric material application device, wherein the dielectric material application device is comprised of a dielectric material supply apparatus adapted to engage a ground surface, a dielectric material supply conduit having a first end connected with the dielectric material supply apparatus, and a dielectric material applicator connected with a second end of the dielectric material supply conduit.

35. (New) The method as claimed in claim 34 wherein the dielectric material supply conduit has a length which is sufficient such that the dielectric material supply apparatus may engage the ground surface while the applying step is performed.

36. (New) The method as claimed in claim 35 wherein the dielectric material application device is portable.

37. (New) The method as claimed in claim 34, further comprising the step of selecting an appropriate dielectric material applicator.

38. (New) The method as claimed in claim 21 wherein the electrified high voltage powerline is uninsulated prior to performance of the method.

39. (New) The method as claimed in claim 21 wherein the conductor of electricity is uninsulated prior to performance of the method.

40. (New) The method as claimed in claim 30 wherein the step of selecting the dielectric material is further comprised of selecting the dielectric material to have a further suitable insulating strength in the liquid form as it is applied to the electrified high voltage powerline to allow for its safe application.

41. (New) The method as claimed in claim 30 wherein the selected dielectric material is comprised of a plurality of dielectric material components and wherein the step of selecting the dielectric material is comprised of selecting each of the dielectric material components so that each of the dielectric material components will provide the suitable insulating strength and so that each of the dielectric material components will provide a further suitable insulating strength in the liquid form as it is applied to the electrified high voltage powerline to allow for its safe application.
